



COVID-19 Nutrition Crisis

The COVID-19 pandemic has the potential to damage the nutritional status of our most vulnerable population– seniors.

- ◆ Less or no trips to grocery stores
- ◆ Disruptions in the food supply chain
- ◆ Decline in dietary quality

Feeding America reports:

- ◆ Before COVID-19: 37 Million individuals struggled with HUNGER.
- ◆ COVID-19 may cause this figure to increase by as much as 17 Million

How the Aging Network and Community Partners are Working Together

Horry County Council on Aging

- Partnered with Senior Resources and Blue Cross Blue Shield to provide drive-thru meals over a 5 week period (in total, 10,000 seniors were served through this grant)
- Teamed with Carolina Food Service of Loris to deliver food to packing sites: \$50 Grocery Bags (dairy, produce, meat, staples, and grain items) to 640 total clients
- Produce vouchers supplied by Steven's Farms of Loris: Clients selected 5 items from a check-off list for bagging and pick-up.

Vital Aging - Williamsburg County

- ◆ Secured over 200 cases of 21 day emergency shelf-stable product from the Lowcountry Food Bank for home delivered meal clients. The Williamsburg County Sheriff's Office and Williamsburg County employees assisted with delivery.
- ◆ Hosted the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (DSS) and provided \$25 worth of vouchers to 800 seniors.
- ◆ Kingstree– Continues to tend to the center gardens and have grown butterbeans, tomatoes, okra, bell pepper, tender greens, cabbage, etc.
- ◆ In the month of September, fresh fruit bags were distributed to congregate dining participants: 119 Clients (apples, oranges, and bananas, etc.)

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Richland County - Senior Resources

- ⇒ Provided over 225,000 meals in six months to seniors in Richland County since the beginning of the pandemic (typically serve only 150,000/year).
- ⇒ Provided vouchers for Lizard's Thicket Restaurants from mid-June through the end of August. The program provided 13,804 senior choice meals to individuals who are not already being served through traditional nutritional services (funding provided by a special grant from Meals on Wheels of America).
- ⇒ Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina awarded a \$1.6 million grant to provide emergency meals to seniors across the state who were food insecure. The program activated providers in 15 counties to provide over 247,000 meals in drive-thru distribution sites from April thru June 2020. Over 10,000 seniors were served (who were not already being served by the traditional nutritional service programs).

Newberry County Council on Aging

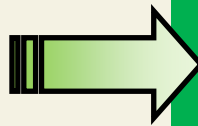
- Delivered approximately 8,000 shelf stable meals to Home Delivered and Senior Center clients between March 2020 – August 2020
- Served 242 clients about 12,000 meals through an Emergency Meals drive thru from May 2020 – July 2020
- Weekly newsletters were sent out with nutritional information

Community SUPPORTED Grocery

5.19-5.22 2020 Kitchen Staples

Peach: Shuler Farms
Kale or Collards: Rooting Down Farms
Spring Onion: Fireant Farms
Squash & Zucchini: Spade & Clover/NC
Green Pepper: NC
Cucumber: SC
Apple, Banana, Orange: USA
Sweet Potato: Gallop Farms
Lemon & Lime: USA
Corn: USA
Good Eggs: Wishbone Heritage Farms

**Staples*



Trident Area Agency on Aging

- ◇ In May 2020, Trident Area Agency on Aging partnered with Lowcountry Street Grocery to expand nutrition services in Charleston County. Lowcountry Street Grocery provided weekly grocery bundles, including fresh produce and eggs, to twenty seniors who may be at risk for malnutrition.
- ◇ Each grocery bundle includes general nutrition education that is created and approved by a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. Seniors receive a list of nutritious foods that are in each bundle and a sample list is attached.
- ◇ Lowcountry Street Grocery maintains the highest standards of food safety and hygiene with all staff, including wearing gloves and facemasks for delivery, as well as no contact delivery.
- ◇ Seniors look forward to receiving their weekly grocery bundles. Each weekly bundle has a different variety of fresh fruits and vegetables.

*Staples is strongly encouraged for SNAP eligible recipients and/or folks that would qualify for SNAP benefits. If you'd like more information on SNAP, how to receive these benefits or need help doing so, please email info@lowcountrystreetgrocery.com



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Waccamaw Area Agency on Aging

- ◇ Partnered with Georgetown Chapter Salvation Army and Healthy Learners Group of Georgetown
- ◇ Recipients were provided with bags of non-perishable groceries (The Salvation Army provided the meals and Healthy Learners volunteered their time to assist with distribution)

46 clients served- 9 week period

CareSouth - PeeDee/Vantage Point

- ◇ Hosted the Seniors Farmers' Market Nutrition Program to provide \$25 in value vouchers to seniors.
- ◇ Marion County - Provided nutritional information to emphasize healthy habits during a pandemic: 'Hydration for Seniors', 'Pantry List for Healthy Eating', & 'Good Nutrition—Key to Healthy Aging'

Numbers of additional meals served from March—July:

- ◇ SCA/Leatherman Center - 10,800
- ◇ Darlington— 52,649
- ◇ Chesterfield -30,626
- ◇ Dillon - 2,227
- ◇ Marion—182
- ◇ Marlboro—6,430

Catawba Area Agency on Aging

- Catawba Area Agency on Aging partnered with Salvation Army, NAACP and United Way-America Corps to distribute nutrition education and food boxes in the region
- Catawba Area Agency on Aging continued to work with the Second Harvest Foodbank and faith-based partners to distribute food to over 1,000 individuals at 6 events April 2020 through June 2020 utilizing drive up events to distribute food.
- Contracted service providers distributed nutrition education materials to over 1,036 seniors April 2020 through June 2020. In addition, providers distributed frozen meals, shelf stable meals or/and food boxes to 2,708 additional seniors

Appalachian Area Agency on Aging

- Cherokee & Spartanburg partnered with Second Harvest and provided approximately 125 senior boxes on a monthly basis: items included canned goods, cereal, powdered milk, etc.
- Senior Center of Cherokee (Gaffney) were very creative when it was realized that the supply of Seniors Farmers Market Vouchers did not meet the demand- Laundry baskets were purchased at the Dollar Store and filled with purchased fresh produce

